

DOCKET NO: E00295.70066.US

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Steven M. Blumenau  
Serial No: 09/107,618  
Confirmation No: 8313  
Filed: June 30, 1998  
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING DATA  
MANAGEMENT FOR A STORAGE SYSTEM COUPLED  
TO A NETWORK

Examiner: Dung C. Dinh  
Art Unit: 2153

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being transmitted via facsimile to the attention of Examiner Dung C. Dinh, at FAX number 703.746.7239, at the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.6(d), on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2003.

*Lori A. Biancuzzo*  
Lori A. Biancuzzo

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicant requests that the following amendments be made to the above application prior to Examination on the merits:

In the Claims

Applicant presents the claims as amended below and encloses a set of marked-up claims with bracketing and underlining.

Please rewrite claims 1, 15, and 21 as indicated below:

1. (Amended) A data management method for managing access to a plurality of volumes of a storage system by at least two devices coupled to the storage system through a network, the method comprising steps of:

675186.1

**F A X C O V E R**

\*\*\*\*\*OFFICIAL FAX\*\*\*\*\*

**Date:** February 24, 2003      **Number of pages** (including cover): 10

**To:** Examiner Dung C. Dinh, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

**Fax No.:** 703.746.7239

**Serial No.:** 09/107,618

**Title:** METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING DATA MANAGEMENT FOR A STORAGE SYSTEM COUPLED TO A NETWORK

**From:** Edward J. Russavage

**Direct dial:** 617.573.7885

**Our File #:** E00295.70066.US

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*Lori A. Biancuzzo*  
Lori A. Biancuzzo

**ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS WILL NOT BE MAILED.**

**MESSAGE:** Transmitted herewith is/are TRANSMITTAL LETTER; PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT.

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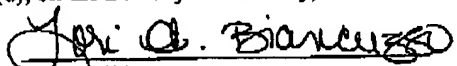
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Lori A. Biancuzzo

Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents:

☒ Preliminary Amendment

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (617) 720-3500, Boston, Massachusetts.

No fee is required. If a fee is necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 23/2825. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steven M. Blumenau, Applicant

By 

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Docket No. E00295.70066.US  
Date: February 24, 2003  
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